

Library Director's Report January 2026

Teens turned out for terrific New Year events such as *Visionary Vibes* (31), *Boba Tea Keychains* (62), *Teen Takeover* (26), and teens participated in unique service opportunities (*Library Reboot*, 26, *Community Art*, 34). Despite a January snowstorm, seniors were *Feelin' Groovy with Heather Braoudakis* (52), while children braved frigid temps to *Adopt a Reading Buddy Stuffie* (250). Patrons visited the building in droves during breaks in the winter weather, checking out new items (as the book industry recovers from the loss of Baker & Taylor) and taking advantage of an impressive variety of book displays throughout the Library. The Library building served as a warming center, with some strategic decisions and HVAC maintenance required to counter the extremely cold January temperatures.

A new font style is being used in the quarterly program guide and other Library materials for the public. Created by the Braille Institute of America, the font increases legibility for readers with low vision and improves comprehension for everyone. The change of font style will benefit readers of print materials (such as this page, for example) and improve accessibility of items uploaded to the website, in keeping with digital standards. See included typeface sample page for more details.

Library Programs and Services

- Children's:** In-Person Programs
 Family Storytime & Craft, 23
 Preschool Play & Learn: Get Moving, 22
 Snow Much Fun, 42
 Snowflake Slime, 2 sessions, 121
 Messy Playtime, 41
 Pajama Family Yoga, 19
 Littlest Artist - Winter Friends, 35
 Kids Bingo - K-Pop, 2 sessions, 59
 Baby Lapsit, 4 sessions, 167
 Toddler Time, 6 sessions, 236
 Preschool Storytime, 4 sessions, 114
 Adopt a Reading Buddy Stuffie, 250
- Scavenger Hunt - Playful Penguins, 208
 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Visits, 39
 Building Blocks for Tots, 4 packets, 400
 Take & Make Craft Kit, 3 projects, 250
- Virtual Programs Past Views, 14
- Tween/Teen:** Visionary Vibes, 31
 Teen Takeover (after hours event), 26
 Teen Volunteer - Library Reboot, 26
 Sippin' Style Boba Keychains, 62
 Teen Volunteer - Community Art, 34
 Tween & Teen Activity Kit, 100
- Adult:** In-Person Programs
 Art Gallery: Beata Nowak
 Art Reception: 22
 Live Music: Feelin' Groovy with Heather Braoudakis, 52
 Book Discussion: James by Percival Everett, 6
 Chair Yoga Workshop, 14
 Monthly Meditation Group, 10
 New Year, New You! with Tom Kens, 14
 Superfoods with Chef Cherise Slattery, 27

Junk Journal, 15
Senior Craft & Chat Drop-in, 2
Introduction to Excel, 4
Excel Functions, 9
3D Design with Tinkercad, 5
Senior Cards & Games, 2 sessions, 11
Puzzle Pack, 250

Virtual Programs

Illinois Libraries Present: Bringing History to Life with Jonathan Eig, 8
Paul Lisneck Midterm Election Update, 8

All Ages: Coloring Nook Sheets, 710

Community Outreach: Virtual: Literacy DuPage ESL Conversation Group, 3 sessions, 13
In-Library

West Suburban Pantry Tutoring, 2 sessions, 20
Guiding Light Volunteers, 10
Felicia Acosta, Woodridge Police Department, Social Worker in the Library Meetings, 4

Off-Site

Outreach at the ARC (Children's program for afterschool students), 50
Outreach at Meadowview School (classroom visits), 75

Services:

E-Resources:
Media on Demand Total: 6,405
Ebooks: 2,971
E-Audiobooks: 2,238
Magazines: 1,196
ERead Illinois/Boundless: 86
Ebooks: 25
E-Audiobooks: 61
HOOPLA: 1,733
Ebooks: 508
E-Audiobooks: 1,108
Videos: 83
Music: 34
Kanopy Videos: 323 Plays
BookFlix: 38
Newspapers: 3,268 issues
Lote4Kids: 8
Scholastic Teachables: 1

Website Users - Home Page Views: 12,781
Curbside Pickup: 17 pickups
Book Bundles for Children: 24 items
Interlibrary Loans Received: 3,310
Reference Questions: 2,617 in Adult/Teen and 1,150 in Children's
Public PC Sessions: 1,246 in Adult/Teen and 179 in Children's
Study Rooms: 504 in Adult and 17 in Children's
Outreach/Homebound Visits: 16
Volunteer Hours: 83.5 for Adult
Museum Adventure Passes: 8
Aruba Wireless Total Sessions: 29,278

Displays: **Children's Services Department:** Reading is SNOW Much Fun; Endcap Language Spotlight Display: Ukrainian; Fairy Tale; Hibernate and Read; Movies We Love; Your Year to Sparkle; Marine Mammals; Be a Brainiac; Shelf and Book Bundles; Teacher Packs; Grab and Go

Adult Services Department: Resolution Motivation; Civil Rights; Short Days, Bite-Sized Stories; Best Books of 2025 (Teen); New Year Intentions (Teen); What if it was Purple? (Teen); Time to Travel! (Teen); Fiction Endcap Displays: Best of 2025; Hot Titles You Might Have Missed

Staff Development and Training

Adult/Teen Services:	George Kalinka	Board Roku presentation
	Savannah Derrig	Bystander Intervention to Stop Anti-Semitic Harassment Path to Leadership: Detaching from Approval Seeking & Criticism (RAILS)
		Targeted Violence Prevention: A Community-Centered Approach
	Kate Lagerstrom	MacMillan Spring/Summer 2026 Preview Tech Services Training
	Chris Keefe	Generative AI and the Library Collection Development Policies PLA Town Hall: Exploring an AI-assisted Future in Public Libraries Developing AI Policies & Principles for Libraries with Dr. Brandy McNeil
	Stephanie Larkins	ILA Noon Network: ChatGPT: A Lib-AI-rian's Sidekick
	Denise Murray	ILA Noon Network: ChatGPT: A Lib-AI-rian's Sidekick ILA Diversity Committee Meeting ILA Noon Network: ChatGPT: A Lib-AI-rian's Sidekick Webinar: Neurodivergence and Customer Service
Children's Services:	Carrie Erickson	Mock Newberry
	Jenn Shunt	Mock Newberry RAILS webinar on Hiveclass/Playground
	Mary Ann Steinhaus	Mock Newberry
	Mary Sue Reese	Grad School Courses - Reference Services and Organization of Information
	Sydney Wirtz	Person in Charge training
	Sarah Wilson	Beanstack Summer Reading Roundtable webinar
Circulation Services:	Julie Lombardo	SWAN Fireside Chat
	Ana Karun	Path to Leadership: Detaching from Approval Seeking & Criticism (RAILS)
	Dee Thurman	Building a Strong Library Volunteer Program (RAILS)
Technical Services	Amy Weiss	Middle Manager's Roundtable Technical Services Networking Group
Administration:	Patti Naisbitt	Tiff Joint Review Board Rotary V3 Consultation
	Laura Dygus	HRA of Greater Oak Brook, AI in HR: What to Automate, What to Avoid and How to Lead with Confidence SHRM - HR Influence and Impact: Leading Yourself and Your Organization
	Matt Hennessy	LACONI Technology Section Group Meeting SWAN Fireside Chat Proven IT Annual Business Review

Library Operations

Circulation for the month of January was 45,794, an increase of 4% from January 2025.
Registered borrowers number 22,748, which is 66.6% of the jurisdictional population.
People/Door Count for month: 13,221